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INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Syria/Turkey

SUBJECT Activities of the Communist Party
in Aleppo and Northern Syria

PLACE [REDACTED]
ACQUIRED [REDACTED]

DATE OF [REDACTED]

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

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1. The Communists in Aleppo were completely unprepared for the recent riots there, and had virtually no part in them. Members of the Party had been awaiting instructions from Damascus for starting large-scale demonstrations, and these instructions were to have been received by the Aleppo Communists by 3 December, but they were never received. As a result, the popular demonstrations proved to be one of the most disruptive occurrences in the history of the Syrian Communist Party. The Communists had been relying on their own demonstrations as an all-out effort to seize control, but their knowledge of current affairs was so limited, their plans so badly made, and their coordination with Damascus so ineffective that they were unable to gain control of the popular riots when they did start. 25X1X6
2. [REDACTED] the Communists have been organizing little commando training groups in northern Syria and that the Communist Party considers its military intelligence coverage of that area "theoretically complete," lacking only such support as the Soviets would give in the event of a war to make it actually complete. 25X1X6
3. [REDACTED] northern Syria would be primarily a Turkish responsibility in any war against the Soviet Union, as the Turkish Government could not depend upon the Syrian Surete for any support in arresting Communists, suspect stay-behind personnel, sabotage organizers, etc., since earlier attempts by the Turks to arrange some sort of program of collaboration on such matters with the Syrian Surete had failed.

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